Nippon Times

No. 16,792 (THE 20th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1945 [redacted] Price 35 Sen

Farm Reform Bill Is Given Approval By Lower House

Mooted Legislation Gains Passage With Slight Amendment by Progressives

The House of Representatives at its plenary session Saturday afternoon approved by a majority vote the agrarian reform bill with slight amendment made by the Progressive Party.

Amendments were proposed by Kikuichiro Yamaguchi, Liberal, and Motojiro Sugiyama, Social Democrat, to the bill but both were defeated.

The House also approved the Election Law amendment bill which had been sent from the Upper House for Lower House reapproval after amendment by the former. The bill now limits the ballot to only one in the electorate with three candidates or fewer, two in the district with from four to 10 candidates and three in the electorate with more than 11 candidates.

The Upper House meanwhile, meeting in plenary session at 3 p.m. Saturday heard Agriculture and Forestry Minister Kenzo Matsumura explain the reason of presenting the agrarian reform bill sent from the Lower House and referred it to the committee in charge. The farm bill committee immediately opened its meeting after the plenary session adjourned and following election of the chairman commenced deliberations on the vital measure.

Welfare Minister Hitoshi Ashida told the House of Peers Saturday that there is no intention on the part of the Government to recognize birth control. He made this statement in reply to Sanichi Akita of the Kenkyukai.

The member had questioned the Government about the Labor Union Bill which was brought up, having been sent from the other House which had approved it. When he had been answered, he brought forward the question of legalizing *birth control.*

The House met in plenary session at 10:25 a.m. and at once took up the Labor Union Bill which was first on the order of the day.

The Welfare Minister explained the measure and the motive which prompted the Government to draft it to the Diet. Interpellation was started by Akita, who pointed out that the measure has a great bearing upon the living of the people, and asked about the Government's policy of stabilizing national life and improving the standards of life of the people. He referred to the problems with which a large portion of the people is confronted in order to strengthen the argument that the Government should be quick to adopt effective measures to improve their conditions. Then he considered in detail the measure before the House. He singled out Article 13 of the proposed Labor Union Law and asked which the Government inserted the clause saying that workers in a dispute with the management shall not be held accountable for any damage resulting to the management from the dispute.

Prime Minister Baron Kijuro Shidehara replied to the questions about the effect of the enforcement of the proposed labor union legislation upon the living of the people. The answer to the question about Article 12 of the proposed law came from Ashida, who said the article in question was inserted as a counterpoise to another depriving workers of the right to ask the management to compensate them for any loss resulting to them from a lockout.

Moots Birth Control

The same interpellator, taking the floor again, questioned the Government whether it had an intention of recognizing birth control. Replying, Ashida stated that he could understand those who insist on official recognition of birthcontrol. He said that the Government could not give thought to the legalizing of birth-control before it can be sure of how to save the situation arising out of a sharp decline in population. As another reason for the refusal of the Government to recognize birth control he gave the adverse effect a widespread practice of birth control would produce. He feared a deterioration in the quality of the blood of the Japanese people.

to a special committee.

The Labor Union Bill was referred to a special committe.

Four measures, the bill for revision of the agricultural bodies law, bill for revision of the fishery bodies law, bill for revision of the wartime forestry resources law and the bill for revision of the silk-reeling law were brought up in a bunch. Following a speech by Agriculture and Forestry Minister Kenzo Matsumura in explanation of it, the measure was referred to a special committee.

The House recessed at 11:45 a.m.

Finance Minister Keizo Shibusawa Saturday told the Upper House budget committee that indemnities to be paid to munitions companies for cancellation of contracts and for raid damage are primarily for pepping up peace-time industries which will produce essential commodities and producton materials.

Target of Attack

Shibusawa has been a target of public attacks for his stand that indemnification for war plants should not be cancelled "because such a step would ruin the entire national finance."

Shibusawa, answering Kakichi Takeuchi, Kenkyukai, at the budget committee session which opened at 10:38 a.m. Saturday explained that of the indemnities amounting to ¥56,500,000,000, the total to be actually paid hereafter was ¥30,200,000,000. Many of the enterprises to benefit from this payment have been so terribly hit by air raids and other factors that they are factors that they are practically unable to resume productive operation if left by themselves. It is necessary, therefore, to provide some "incentive" if these enterprises are to effect conversion into peace industries and produce vital necessities of life and material, the Finance Minister said.

Shibusawa believed that strict supervision over the calculation of indemnities and taxation on properties and war profits will prevent the evils and injustice which are feared to accompany the carrying out of indemnification. Shibusawa observed that revival of civilian goods industries does not necessarily mean the revival of medium and small enterprises alone, adding that opening of industries of a considerably large scale was necessary, and the revival of such large industries need appropriate subsidies.

While unable to give definite figures as to how much these revived industries will produce, Shibusawa said he expected improvement of national life from general recovery of productive facilities.

Takeuchi branded the Government's policy regarding the calculation of indemnities as "ambiguous" and demanded that the Government present to the people clear, concrete guarantees showing that the indemnification will not jeopardize national finance.

Miners Desert Post

At the outset of the session, Baron Hitoshi Mukaiyama pointed out that the Government promises to give good treatment to coal miners have in many cases proved false thus causing the miners to desert their posts of work and demanded explanation on the situation.

Commerce and Industry Minister Sankuro Ogasawara stated that special rice rations are offered to coal miners and arrangements have been made to provide the district which is short of rice supplies such as the Hokkaido with supplies from nearby areas. Ogasawara promised to keep strict vigilance on such mines as have reportedly failed to give miners their rightful share of rice rations.

The net to interpellate was Takeuchi, who demanded a definite Government policy vis-a-vis what he called the "chaotic" economic situation. Takeuchi pointed out that "industrial democratization" was being misinterpreted, as licence whereby one can do whatever one pleases. He said that although the various plans mapped out during the war were such that they were totally impossible of realization, economic control itself is not to blame. The decline in production witnessed during the latter part of the war years was, in the opinion of the interpellator, due to the exhaustion of Japan's economy. Japanese economy moved to the control system before its capitalism met a natural collapse at its peak of development.

Takeuchi went on to point out the danger of leaving the present economic situation uncontrolled. He discredited the opinion ascribing defeat to the economic control system adding that a sheer "laissez faire" policy would cause uncontrolled development of medium and small enterprises, which he said, will again collapse in time. The policy of industrial democratization should not be identified with the Manchester School's economic theory sanctioning uncontrolled industrial activities and competition, he declared.

Commerce and Industry Minister Ogasawara testified that the principle of industrial and economic democratization is to make enterprises serve the interests of the people at large through fair competition. He said he intended to maintain the minimum standard of living for the masses while recognizing free competition to such a scope as would not jeopardize this minimum level, adding that self-

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DIET TODAY

The Upper House committees on agrarian reform bill, budget, Salt Monopoly Law amendment, Labor Union Law bill and the bill for revision of the Agricultural Organizations Law will meet at 10 a.m. respectively.

In the Lower House, only one committee studying the bill seeking an ex post facto approval of the Imperial Ordinance issued in relation to the acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration will be at work.

Free Hand for MacArthur on Nippon Task Urged

Problem One of Education, Religion, Culture, Not Race, Says Compton

Kyodo-USIS

WASHINGTON, December 13.—Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, last night, urged that General Douglas MacArthur be given "a chance to work our his present difficult problems with full support and without interference."

Compton declared that General MacArthur should "be given a free hand because the situation is too complicated to be safely handled in this critical stage by divided management or conflicting policies."

"If we do this, I do not believe that we will one day wake up to find that we have 'lost the race' in Japan," he said.

Dr. Compton, who recently returned here from a mission to Japan as head of the scientific group told the meeting here that Japanese friendliness to the American occupation forces and the "fine performance of so many of our own nisei in this war proves that the Japanese problem is one of education religion and culture—not one of race."

Dr. Compton said that many of the best Japanese citizens sincerely disapproved of the imperialistic policies of Japan of the last few decades and have resented the assumption of dictatorial powers by the military clique but have been powerless to prevent it.

He added the intellectuals who sincerely opposed the imperialistic policies should be encouraged.

MP's in Britain Vote To Accept U.S. Loan

House Members Also Approve Participation in Bretton Woods Plan

Kyodo-USIS

LONDON December 14. — The British House of Commons yesterday voted by a large majority to accept the $4,400,000,000 loan from the United States the House of Commons also voted approval of Britain's participation in the Bretton Woods Monetary Stabilization Plan at the second reading of the bill. Three readings are required.

Churchill Protests

Kyodo-AP

LONDON, December 13. — The House of Commons today accepted the American loan by a vote of 345 to 98.

Winston Churchill, Opposition leader, said that a heavy opposition vote would injure British interests in America. Churchill also question Great Britain's ability to meet her obligatons and expressed astenishment that the United States asked for interest considering Great Britain's circumstances.

Churchill protested against the "indecent haste in which these most serious and complex matters are thrust before us."

The Commons also approved Great Britain's participation in the Bretton Woods Monstary Stablization Plan 314 to 50.

The United States has already approved the Bretton Woods Plan but Congress has not voted on the loan.

Poll Law Revision Bill Amended in the Diet Is Approved by Cabinet

The Government, at the Cabinet meeting held within the Diet Building at 9 a.m. Saturday, approved the Election Law revision bill amended by both House of the Diet and took steps to refer it to the Privy Council for deliberation.

U.S. Invites 14 Allies For Commerce Talks

Aims to Cut Down Tariff Barriers and Expand World Trade

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, December 13.—The United States has invited 14 of the world key nations for a roundtable discussion designed to cut down tariff barriers and begin the task of expanding world trade.

Unnamed officials disclosing this today, said that the conversations would precede the full dress United Nations trade and employment conference scheduled for next summer.

Countries reportedly invited to the to the preliminary meeting are Great Britain, Russia, France, China, Canada, Brazil, Australia, Cuba, New Zealand, Belgium, Holland, Czechoslovakia, South Africa and India.

The date of the meeting has not been set but sources said that it will probably be held next spring and may take place in Europe despite the fact that the United States is sponsoring it.

The countries accepting the American invitation will be those prepared to begin detailed negotiations on steps to promote world trade as agreed by the British and American Governments last week in connection with the $4,400,000,000 credit to England.

The Anglo-American credit announcement last week said, "These negotiations should get down to cases, seeking to reduce tariffs, eliminate preferences and lighten and remove other barriers to trade, whatever they might be."

The sources said that the roundtable discussions will give the main trading countries a chance to learn each other's attitude more fully before the larger international conference. They added that an European site would enable the foreign delegates to keep closer contacts with their Governments and on the other hand the American delegates would not need to refer the decisions to Washington since they would have full authority under the reciprocal trade agreements renewed last June.

Strike Vote Passed By U.S. Electricians

Affects 3 Large Companies; GM Demands Court Actions Against Picketing

Kyodo-UP

CHICAGO, December 14.—A total of 200,000 electrical workers of three largest companies in the United States—General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors Electric Motive Division—cast ballots at their plants in 16 States and conducted a strike vote tonight. Preliminary reports indicated a walkout in favor of higher wages would be overwhelmingly approved.

Demands Court Actions

General Motors Company has demanded court actions against picketing at two of its Detroit plants, according to a San Francisco broadcast on Friday. It was added the CI is blaming General Motors for delay in settling the 24-day old strike. The CIO said that it will resume negotiations with the electrical companies and will not call a walkout until after the first of the year.

Another San Francisco broadcast said that in Washington Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach is completing talks on the wage increase dispute in the steel indusrty. He gave no further indication of his next move to avert a nationwide strike on January 14. It is said that both sides appeared to be waiting for the next Government move.

Meanwhile, the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives has resumed questioning of Schwellenbach on the President's proposal for settling major industrial disputes. Truman has asked that a fact finding board be set up to investigate labor disputes and that there be a 30-day period in which labor must not strike and industry forgo lockouts.

BYRNES CAUGHT IN STORM

His Plane Was Lost for 1 Hour Over Moscow on Friday

Kyodo-AP

MOSCOW, December 14.—Lost in a blizzard over the Moscow area for an hour, U.S. Secretary of State Byrnes landed in an American transport plane at the Central Airport a few minutes before darkness fell today.

es Reaches Paris

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PARIS, December 14.—James Byrnes, U.S. Secretary of State made a two-hour stopover here yesterday en route to Moscow for the "Big Three" Foreign Ministers Conference. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery, U.S. Ambassador to Paris, met Byrnes at the airfield and conferred with him while the plane refueled.

Marshall Leaving For China Post With U.S. Policy

Post Says His Object to Help Liberate Chiang's Regime —Leaves Saturday

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, December 14.—General George C. Marshall will leave by plane at 9 a.m. Saturday, the weather permitting, for his special diplomatic assignment in China.

The new ambassador to Chungking called at the White House and spent 15 minutes with President Truman in final consultation.

Press Secretary Charles Ross said Marshall will take a directive outlining the American policy towards China and that Truman will issue a public statement on which the directive will be based. Ross said that the 1,000 to 1,500 word statement will be released on Sunday.

Marshall will be accompanied by both military aide and a State Department attache. He expects to reach Chungking next Thursday, Chinese time.

Meanwhile, the Post yesterday editorialized that the General's prime objective will be the same as Major General Patrick J. Hurley's—"to encourage the liberation of Chiang Kai-shek's regime." It added that "the Chinese situation will rank second only to the atom bomb in the forthcoming Moscow discussions."

U.S. Planes May Be Used

Kyodo-AP

PEIPING, December 13.—The Ta King Pao today said that American transport planes and pilots may be used in transporting Chinese National troops to Manchuria.

The paper said that the Russian occupation authorities fully agreed with the Chinese suggestions on methods which the Nationalist forces are to be moved northward and approved the use of American piloted planes to Changchun.

Chiang and Wife Arrives

Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek, meanwhile arrived here Tuesday by plane from Chungking for their first inspection of North China in 10 years.

The Generalissimo said, "I am most anxious to know all the facts about wrongs you suffered during the period of Japanese occupation" and also wants to know of any illegal acts by the National Government officials.

Chungking reports said that Chiang is believed to be engaged in a momentous conference dealing with the imminent return of Manchuria and its wealth of resources.

It was reported that the Generalissimo's eldest son Chiang Chung-kue, special commissioner for foreign affairs in Manchuria, would fly from Changchun to give him first-hand account.

Harry Clements reported from Tientsin that Chiang's arrival might avert bloody civil strife.

Jinnah Backs Constitution

Mohammed Ali Jinnah, leader of India's Muslim League, advocated two constitution-making bodies for India, accordng to a Calcutta broadcast Wednesday. One would plan the constitution for Hindustan, Hindu state, and the other for Turkestan, a Muslim state. Jinnah said that he did not doubt, the sincerity of the British Government and added that the present deadlock was not so much between Britain and India but between the Congress Party and the Muslim League.

Allied Commander Hits Korean Peoples Republic For Breaking Its Pledge

Lieutenant General John Hodge, commanding general of United States forces in Korea, denounced the Korean Peoples Republic as posing before the Korean people as a bona-fide government, according to a Chungking broadcast on Friday. He charged that the leaders of this group failed to keep the promise to reorganize and to make clear to the people that they only constitute a political party. He said that the leaders misrepresented the United States army as aiding and abetting the organization. "Henceforth," General Hodge declared, "all political organizations not proven as a legitimate government will be regarded as unlawful and will be dealt with accordingly by the military government. This measure is necessary, in order to prevent misleading the people."

6-Man Staff Chosen For Trial of Homma

Indictment of Army Leader Due December 18—Trial On January 17

Kyodo-AP

MANILA, December 14.—A six man staff headed by Lieut. Colonel Frank E. Meek, of Caldwell, Idaho, was named by the war criminal branch of the United States army forces in the Pacific today to prosecute Lieut. General Masaharu Homma on charges of condoning atrocities including the "death march" of Battan.

The staff includes Philippine army Major Manuel Lim of Manila plus Navy Lieutenant Benjamin Schiartz, Los Angeles, Captain S. C. Hill, Wamego, Kansas, and Lieut. Paul T. White, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Homma's indictment probably will be returned December 18 and his trial will begin about January 17. Three high ranking officers already have been named to the commission and two other places are still to be filled.

Homma Called 'Executioner'

Kyodo-UP

MANILA, December 14.— The Afternoon Star, local journal, reports that members of the Chinese community here, now massing evidence against Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma, said that the Japanese war leader is known as the "executioner" of many well-known Manila Chinese including Consul General Kwangson Young, Consul K. Y. Mok and about 100 other Chinese residents.

Probing Homma's Status

Information on the scope or extent of the command of Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma, in the Philippines from 24 December, 1941 to August 1942, was required of the Japanese Government in a directive issued Friday by General Douglas MacArthur's Headquarter.

Homma, held as a war criminal by the Allied Powers', has already been taken to the Philippines to stand trial.

Information required by GHQ in the directive includes answers to the questione:

Was Homma the supreme commander of all Japanese forces, of whatever branch, whenever those forces were on land in the Philippines?

Did Homma have supreme command over the Japanese air forces in the Philippines?

Good Food, Wages Promized Coal-Miners 'Just Pack of Lies,' Aver 2 Returnees

"Lies . . . all lies," was the terse report brought back by two young laborers from the Tagawa coal mines in Kyushu where they had recently gone dreaming rosy dreams of full stomachs and treatment par excellence

The promised ration of five go or 700 grams of rice per day and a wage of eight to ¥10 a day for mine workers are downright lies, declared Tadashi Aizawa and Kunikatsu Endo who returned on Friday, according to the Asahi.

Responding to the call of the Construction of a Peaceful Japan Corps, Aizawa and Endo went to Tagawa coal mine on December 5. However, astounded by the true condition at the mine, they immediately returned and called upon Masataka Toyoda, Commerce and Industry Vice-Minister, and accounted what they had experienced and seen at the mine.

"Upon arriving at the mine, they said, "each of us were given a bowl of rice and three slices of pickle for lunch. For supper, we were given the same food, but the quantity of rice was much less. The next day, we had only a very small portion of rice and no other dish. We had to go to a farmer's house and to ask for some salt. We were surprised at the meagerness of the rice in spite of the fact that a five-go ration a day is promised for mine workers.

The two had more to say. "We were told before that an allowance of ¥100 was to be advanced beside travelling expenses, but we did not get it. Feeling uneasy we asked about our monthly earning. At the mobilization office we had been told that each mine worker was paid eight to ¥10 a day, bringing the monthly earning to at least ¥300, but to our great consternation we were informed that our monthly earning would not exceed $30. For the ensuing four days, therefore, 20 out of a party of 52 left the mine and all those from Kanagawa Prefecture like us quit the mine on December 10." "We feel angry at having been deceived by the men at the mobilization office and those at the mine," the irked men concluded.

Capture of Tabriz By Iranian Rebels Appears Imminent

City Besieged by Insurgent Forces—Big-3 Asked to Evacuate Iran

Kyodo-USIS

TEHERAN, December, 14.—A high government source said today that the fall of Tabriz, largest city in Iran's northwestern province of rebellious tribesmen, was imminent.

The announcement came as provincial governor Bayatt arrived in Teheran after a flight from the besieged city. Bayatt said he was forced to leave Tabriz by leaders of the movement for local autonomy. The government official said the Iranian garrison at Tabriz was surrounded by insurgent forces and was awaiting orders from Teheran to fight or surrender.

Earlier, Iranian troops marching to the Soviet occupied territory were turned back by Russians who explained such a move might cause unnecessary bloodshed. A member of the Iranian parliament said the government garrison could not hold out more than two weeks without assistance.

Asks Allies to Leave

Kyodo-USIS

TEHERAN, December 14.—The Iranian Foreign Ministry yesterday presented a formal memorandum to the embassies of the United States, Great Britain and Russia at Teheran requesting the withdrawal of the Allied forces from Iran.

The note also urged that the status of Iran be taken up at the foreign Ministers conference at Moscow with Iran representation when the situation is discussed.

British and French Agree

Kyodo-AP

LONDON, December 13.—France and Britain today agreed to withdraw troops from Syria and Lebanon and to align their future policy in to the Middle East closely.

Syrian forces demanding independence from France fought bloody clashes with the French seven months ago and British troops intervened to restore order, leading to friction between Anglo-French governments.

British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin announced that Anglo-French military experts will meet in Beirut on December 21 'to fix very early first measures of evacuation."

In Paris, the foreign office spokesman said that the accord eliminated the last vestiges of French mandate over Syria and Lebanon. Bevin said that the governments agreed to encourage "economic well-being and security of peoples of the Middle East."

UNO POWER FOR TRUMAN

Guidance of U.S. Policy in Organ Favored by Senate Body

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, December 12.—The House foreign affairs committee today, approved the legislation vesting power in the President to guide the United States policy in the United Nations Organization. The Senate has already passed the legislation.

Fraser Going to London

New Zealand Prime Minister Peter Fraser is flying to London next week for the January meeting of the United Nations Assembly, according to a London broadcast on Thursday.

French on Strike

Kyodo-USIS

PARIS, December 13.—More than 1,000,000 French public service employes took part in a "token" strike yesterday as the result of the government refusal to increase salaries. The strike affected the subway and bus operators, postal employes, teachers, police and tobacco shop workers.

36 Atrocity Guilty to Hang

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DACHAU, December 13.—The military court today sentenced 30 officials and guards of the notorious concentration camp to death by hanging for the murder, torture and starvation of camp inmates. Others were sentenced to prison terms.

Russia Holding Election

The Soviet Union is now preparing its election campaign beginning February 10, according to a Moscow broadcast on Thursday.

Weather Report

Today's weather forecast by the Central Meteorological Observatory at 11 a.m. Saturday. Fair with northwesterly winds.

Saito May Be Given Leadership of Party

Split-Threatened Progressives Now Looking to Aged Doyen as Polls Near

Opinion is gaining ground among influential leaders of the Progressive Party in favor of nominating Takao Saito, doyen of Progressives, as president of the party, rather than "importing" some other prominent political figure, such as General Kazushige Ugaki, as its head.

The issue of picking the president of the split-threatened Progressive Party took a new turn when it became clear that General Ugaki, until recently the strongest favorite among party members will not accept the offer to head the party, at least until the general elections.

Anxiety among leaders of the party has deepened in view of the obvious disadvantage to the party if it remained without a president in the forthcoming general elections.

Political observers pointed out that the difficulty in picking out the president of the Progressive Party is two-fold. Because of the growing threat of a split, the president of the party must have strong political power to tide over the party crisis, while he must at the same time have financial ability to provide the party with ample campaign funds.

Under the present circumstances, it was further pointed out, it appears hopelessly difficult to find one who has a combination of these two qualifications.

Under these circumstances, according to the same sources, Progressive leaders are now increasingly inclined to the view that there will be little time left for them to make another effort to find some candidate for its president outside of party members.

At the same time, these leaders seem to be seriously concerned over the disastrous effects which will be brought on the party in connection with the election results if the party delays settlement of its issue in the eyes of the public any further.

Accordingly, these observers said, Influential leaders of the party have started positive efforts to get the party out of the present chaos over the issue of selecting its president by quickly nominating Mr. Saito as head of the party, leaving the financial side of the issue in connection with the election campaign funds to the care of each candidate who wants to run for election on the Progressive ticket.

According to these political observers, present indications are that the issue will probably see its final settlement in the nomination of Mr. Saito as president, possibly within a few days.

Farm Reform Bill Is Given Approval By Lower House

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governing operation of control, instead of official action, will be adopted.

Protect, Aid Industries

Reiterating his contention that medium and small industries will form the nucleus of future economy of this country, the Commerce and Industry Minister stated the Government will take measures to protect and assist such enterprises while encouraging fair competition among themselves. He indicated that authorities concerned were studying plans to enact what might be called the "Basic Industrial Law" in order to expedite economic democratization which the Government aims at and a bill for this legislation will be introduced to the next Diet session.

On foreign trade, Ogasawara testified that the Government has notified SCAP that it will provide collateral for food import amounting to ¥478,000,000 by December, this year, and additional goods amounting to ¥2 522,000,000 next year, the total being ¥3,000,000,000.

Much efforts will be made to produce objects of art which will form a big part in Japanese export the Commerce and Industry Minister explained, and for this purpose, an Industrial Art Development Commission will be created so that definite figures of production will be published. Pointing out that materials for objects of industrial art can be self-supplied in Japan and thus are free from competition with foreign goods, Ogasawara declared the Government will take measures to protect technicians this field and boost the production to prewar level. For this purpose, training schools for such technician as well as sample exhibition halls will be established and augmented under the supervision of this Minister, for which budgetary estimates are being compiled, he added.

Ogasawara told the committee that the Allied Headquarters has given support to this program and gave valuable suggestion to a conference of industrial artists which was held some time ago.

The Upper House committee on the Salt Monopoly Law amendment bill and the Lower House "Potsdam Declaration Committee" met in session repectively at 10.20 a.m., Saturday.

SITTING IN ON THE DIET

The bill for revision of the Election Law was passed by both Houses of the Diet on Friday when the House of Representatives at its plenary session approved the original bill and the amended bill which the House of Peers re-amended and returned to the Lower House.

Because of the consent on the part of the Lower House to the Upper House amendment and the Government approval of the Lower House amendment no conference of the two Houses was held in adopting the bill.

The Lower House, it is understood, approved the amendment of the Upper House for the following two reasons:

1. The Lower House admitted the irrationality in its amendment which proposed that in the case of an electoral district whose quorum is 10 or less the names of two candidates be mentioned together in accordance with the restricted plural balloting system. However, in its amendment, the Lower House failed to take into consideration the case of a re-election or a by-election in which one or two candidates are to be selected.

2. According to the Upper House re-amendment, it is proposed that in an electoral district whose quorum is three or less the single balloting system should be adopted. Furthermore, according to the greater electoral district system provided for in the bill there is virtually no case of the quorum of three or less except in the case of Okinawa Prefecture. Therefore no virtual change was made in the Progressive Party's amendment so far as the result of the general election is concerned.

Meawhile, the Government it is understood, finally approved the Lower House amendment regarding restrictions on electioneering for following reasons:

1. The Government took into consideration the fact that the Upper House showed no positive attitude to this problem on the ground that it should not interfere with the will of the Lower House.

2. The Government, considering the present revision as a transitory step intends to introduce a more drastic bill for revision of the Election Law to the special Diet session following the general election.

The plenary session of the House of Peers opened at 1:15 p.m., when a prospectus of questions on relief for Japanese residents abroad was introduced by Teizaburo Sekiya, of the Kenkyukai, who delivered an explanatory address. In reply to the query made by Sekiya, Premier Shidehara promised all-out effort of the Government for relief and protection of the overseas Japanese residents.

Introduction of a resolution regarding food importation followed, with an explanatory speech by Viscount Tadaatsu Ishiguro, Independent. Taking a vote, the meeting unanimously approved the resolution.

In this connection, Agriculture and Forestry Minister Matsumura made a statement, bringing the meeting to a recess.

The plenary session resumed at 3:42 p.m. when a bill providing for revision of the Salt Monopoly Law, another calling for installation of the Trade Funds and one other bill were presented all of which had been sent from the Lower House following approval. Finance Minister Shibusawa delivered on explanatory address, and the bills were referred to the respecting committees.

The committee of the Lower House charged with examining the labor union bill Friday afternoon unanimously approved the epoch-making measures on labor relations in the form originally drafted by the government.

Prior to the voting, representatives of three parties and the Independents' group delivered speeches in favor of the bill.

While Yoshimori Yoneda, Progressive, and Ichiro Honda, Liberal, unconditionally supported the government measure, Tadanori Nagayama, Independent expressed the hope that the government would formulate a basic policy to elevate the status of tenant farmers and to break the present political, economic, industrial and financial system which he described as feudalistic and bureaucratic.

Tsunekichi Yamazaki, Social Democrat meanwhile voiced the hope that Japan's labor front would be allowed representation again at the International Labor Conference as soon as possible. Yamazaki also declared that the government should set up a Labor Ministry.

The Independent Group and the Social Demacratic Party, however, did not propose any amendments on the labor union bill.

The meeting of the House of Representatives committee on the bill for revision of the Agricultural Organizations Laws this morning approved the following four bills:

1. The bill for revision of the Agricultural Organizations Law.
2. The bill for revision of the Marine Products Industry Organizations Law.
3. The bill for revision of the Wartime Reforestration Law.
4. The bill for revision of the Silk-yarn Industry Law.

In the course of the deliberations on the bill for revision of the Agricultural Organizations Law, the Social Democratic Party and Katsutaro Kita submitted their respective amendments. However, the Government's original bill was passed without any amendment.

Dr. Joji Matsumoto, State Minister Without Portfolio, favors revision of the Constitution after the reform of both the House of Representatives and the House of Peers.

In reply to Toshio Kishii, Liberal, at the Lower House committee meeting, Dr. Matsumoto said: "Personally, I believe that an extraordinary session of the Diet should be convened for the special purpose of revising the Constitution and various laws and regulations relative to the revision."

The extraordinary Diet session, he continued, should be preceded by the reform of both Houses. "That is to say, the House of Representatives should first undergo reform through the coming general election and the House of Peers through the next session of the Diet to be called immediately after the election."

He pointed out that the revision of the Constitution will not be limited to amendment of articles in the Constitution. "Various laws and regulations will be affected," he added.

The Government, however, is making necessary preparations to be able to present the Constitution revision bill, if such step becomes necessary in accordance with changes in the political situation, Matsumoto further stated.

In this connection, it is recalled, Premier Shidehara at Wednesday's plenary session of the House of Peers said that the reform of the Upper House should, in principle, precede the revision of the Constitution, but that the latter may be carried out first in accordance with changes in the poliical situation.

A frank admission that the war had been a war of Japanese aggression was made by Premier Kijuro Shidehara in the course of his reply to an interpellation at the plenary session of the House of Peers.

He made the blunt statement in connection with the Allied reparations policy toward Japan. Taichi Nakayama, Kenkyukai, interpellated the government on the Allied decision to seize all Japanese assets in foreign countries, asking the Premier to state his views on the matter.

"This was a war of aggression," Baron Shidehara bluntly told the interpellator, "therefore, Japanese assets abroad are to be seized by the Allied Powers as reparations."

Changing the subject, Nakayama referred to the repatriation of Korea and Chinese mine workers in Japan on the grounds that they started riots after the war's end. He expressed fear that such action on the part of the Japanese government might cause some unfavorable effects on the future relations between Japan on one hand and China and Korea on the other following the repatriation of these workers to their respective countries.

In reply, Sankuro Ogasawara, Minister of Commerce and Industry, said that the government, following the end of the war, had been asking Korean and Chinese mine workers to stay on their jobs, but that agitators among these workers caused some trouble in the mines they had been working in.

Accordingly, he said, the government was compelled to have these workers repatriated to their respective countries. He revealed in this connection that a considerable number of Korean workers are still remaining in the Ube area in Yamaguchi Prefecture.

He added that any Korean workers who desire to stay in their mining jobs will be asked to do so, instead of being asked to go home.

A total of 386,000 Japanese civilians have been repatriated as of yesterday, Tateo Morishige, director of the Control Bureau of the Foreign Office, declared before the plenary session of the Upper House.

According to a survey made yesterday, Morishige said, the repatriated Japanese include 280,000 from Southern Korea, 14,000 from North Shina, 2,000 from Central China, 1,000 from South China, 75,000 from Saghalien, 1,000 from South Sea islands, 9,000 from the Philippines, and 4,000 from Singapore.

There still remain 2,856,000 Japanese civilians overseas, Morishige added.

As for living conditions of Japanese residents in various regions, Morishige declared that the situation in Manchuria and Saghalien has been improved with the restoration of peace and order. Japanese civilians in Northern Korea, however, are facing the worst situation with the advent of cold weather.

Employees of the South Manchurian Railway, Morishige further reported, are well paid for the services they are rendering. Japanese residents in China are generally living collectively, awaiting repatriation.

Conditions of Japanese in southern regions vary according to localities, but they are generally well-treated by the United Sates and other Allied forces, Morishige said.

He said that relief for families in Japan of Japanese residents abroad is being provided by the Society for Relief of Overseas Japanese. To those who are hard pressed financially because of the days ago, started to make loans up to ¥200 a month, Morishige revealed.

Socialists To Have 213 Men in Elections

Party Aims at 150 Seats, But Has Slim Chance to Hold Majority

A total of 213 members of the Social Democratic Party have so far notified the party's headquarters of their intention to run as candidates in the forthcoming general elections it is learned.

Among these candidates for the general election there is one woman, Mrs. Michi Yamazaki, wife of Tsunekichi Yamazaki, one of the leaders of the party, it was also learned. She will run in Shizuoka Prefecture.

A special election campaign committee has been set up in the Social Democratic Party in accordance with the decision taken at a joint meeting of leaders and advisers of the party Thursday. The committee which is composed of Tetsu Katayama, Chief Secretary, Rikizo Hirano, Chief of the Election Department, and five other members of the Standing Committee, held its first meeting in the Diet Building Friday afternoon.

Party Men Only Backed

Thursday's joint meeting of leaders and advisers of the party decided on the policy of backing only candidates who are members of the party, and running a total of party candidates that will amount to about one-third of the total number of candidates to be returned in each constituency.

Selection of the candidates of the party will be made by the Standing Committee upon recommendation by prefectural chapters and the Election Campaign Committee.

In regard to the party's chances of success in the general election, Rikizo Hirano, Chief of the Election Department, declared Friday that the party would increase its seats in the Diet at least to 100. The goal for which the party is striving is 150 seats in the general elections, he said.

Slim Chance of Majority

Because old politicians have a number of solid constituencies, there is hardly any chance that the Social Democratic Party will hold the majority in the next Diet, Mr. Hirano admitted. He said there must be a few more general elections before the Social Democrats become the leading party.

In regard to the Communists, Mr. Hirano declared that three or four Communists may be returned to the Diet in the general election. Except the Communist Party, parties presently having no seats in the Diet will find it very hard to send members to the Diet, he added.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that Yasukuni Watanabe, an Independent member of the Diet, has joined the Social Democratic Party, whose seats in the Diet have now increased to 17.

New Coal Board Head

The Government, on Thursday, informally decided to appoint Naoto Kohiyama, former Minister of Transportation and Communications as President of the Board of Coal to be inaugurated shortly, it was learned.

Diet Will Close Dec. 18; Labor Ministry Is Slated To Be Established Soon

The Diet will be dissolved on December 18 and the date of the general election will be either January 19 or 20. Meanwhile, the Labor Ministry will be created in the near future. It is generally regarded that the present Labor Administration Section of the Welfare Ministry lacks the power and vitality to cope with increasingly important and difficulty labor problem. Therefore, with the probable early passage of the Labor Union Bill, the Government is expected to take up the matter of creating a new ministry to solely handle labor administration.

Viewing The Diet

By Our Special Observer

The agrarian reform bill originally scheduled for committee approval during Friday morning and House passage the same afternoon had been delayed till Saturday. This procrastination was mainly due to controversy between the Government on the one hand and the Progressive and Liberal Parties on the other over the latter's proposal to amend the original Government bill.

Both the Progressive and Liberal Parties which despite their party names, actually represent the interests of land-owners and capitalists have been opposed to the agrarian reform bill, which aims at liberating Japan's farming population from the shackles of land-owners and reduction of farm rent by instituting cash payment system. The "free the farmer" directive issued by SCAP, however, totally upset their plan, thus leaving for them only one alternative, that is, to "pull the bones" out of the bill as the Japanese put it.

This attempt to nullify the importance of the farm reform bill was much in evidence in heated discussions which took place at the committee meeting on Friday. The Progressives proposed:

1. To fix the official price of rice which is to form the basis of calculating farm rent at ¥75 as against the Government-proposed ¥55.
2. To recognize payment of farm rent in kind provided both the land-owner and the tenant farmer concerned agree and the city, town or village farm committee sanctions it.
3. To recognize keeping of rice by the absentee owners for their own household use.
4. To increase the proposed Government subsidy of ¥190 per "tan" or 0.245 acre for sale of land from the land-owners to cultivators.

The Liberal Party, meanwhile, allied itself with the Progressives in proposing recognition of payment of farm rent in kind and also suggested that the Government permit limitless possession of land by men who will reclaim new fields after the proposed bill is enacted.

The Social Democrats, on the other hand, want to limit the maximum farm land possession to three "chobu" or 7.5 acres as against the five "chobu" or 12.5 acres plan proposed in the Government bill. They also proposed to kill the provision in the bill which is liable to abuse by land-owners who might try to take away farm land from farmers when they wish to turn cultivators themselves.

The Government, well aware that acceptance of the Progressives proposals would practically nullify the bill, at first took the resolute stand to shelve all of them but after repeated negotiations finally yielded on two of the poposals—raising the Government subsidy for sale of farm land and the official rice price forming the basis to fix farm rent.

The whole procedure furnishes another evidence of the reactionary character of the "Progressive" Party while the concession on the part of the Government points to its inherent weakness. Whether or not the amended bill will remain free from interference from some "higher" authority is yet to be seen.

NEW RIGHTIST PARTY SET

Sasakawa's Followers to Form Organ in Osaka Shortly

The new political party planned by admirers of Ryoichi Sasakawa, a Rightist boss and a suspected war criminal, in Osaka will be brought into existence by the end of the year, it was learned Wednesday.

Promoters of the new party, which will probably be called the Seiwato or Holy Peace Party, include Motoomi Dodo and six other members of municipal and prefectural assemblies in Osaka who formerly belonged to the Kokusai Domei, an ultra-nationalistic organization which existed until the surrender. They will also be joined by 15 other municipal and prefectural assemblymen who were active during the war as leaders of local chapters of the Imperial Rule Assistance Men's Corps.

The new party, will be financed by Sasakawa, while his followers in Tokyo including Yoshio Fuji and Tsunekichi Fujiwara, who were reported to have decided on a "wait-and-see" policy are also expected to take part in the new party.

Relations between the new party and the existing Zenkoku Kinrosha Domei, another Rightist organization under the control of Mr. Sasakawa, have been a subject of serious discussion among his admirers. In view of the forthcoming general election, they decided to make the new party a more moderate organization in its political stand than the National Federation of Toilers in order to embrace elements other than Sasakawa's followers.

The National Federation of Toilers will continue in its present form.

Soviet Censors Busy

The United Press quoted its Moscow correspondent as saying that strict censorship of news dispatches leaving the Soviet Union has been restored, according to a San Francisco broadcast. It was added that the Soviet censors blue-pencilled in its entirety a dispatch in which he sought to report the new censorship practice. It was only a month ago that Moscow dispatches reported that censorship had been relaxed materially with dispatches which previously would have been stopped or cut allowed to be sent. UP said that it appears possible that the resumption of censorship was ordered because of the impending meeting of the Big 3 Foreign Ministers in the Soviet capital.

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'Slow-Process' Run On Banks Seen Here

Large Withdrawals Being Made by 'Tax Evaders' as New Levies Loom

The recent rapid increase in Bank of Japan note isues, now approaching the ¥56,000,000,000 mark, was described as a "slow-process" run on the banks by officials of the bank and the Finance Ministry when interviewed by Jiji on Friday.

According to these sources, the end of the war in August witnessed a sudden increase in Bank of Japan note issues, which surpassed the ¥10,000,000,000 mark at one time. This tendency, however, began to subside during September, with the large sum of money that had been drawn out coming back to the bank as deposits, they added.

In the month of October, however, large-scale withdrawals of bank deposits started in Tokyo and other major cities, according to these officials, who pointed out that this tendency spread to minor cities in the country in November.

Of late they said, these large-scale withdrawals of bank deposits are being accelerated and in many cases, withdrawals amounting to ¥100,000 to ¥200,000 are being made singly by individuals.

These officials voiced the opinion that such a sudden increase in large-scale withdrawals of bank deposits is by no means a customary year-end affair but that it has been caused primarily by preliminary maneuvers by propertied classes in anticipation of the projected property levy, war profit taxes as well as soaring commodity prices affecting both the rich and middle classes.

They predicted that, as far as the "preliminary tax evasion" moves are concerned, this phenomenon will continue unabated until April, or a the latest, July next year, when the projected new taxes are expected to be instituted.

According to some of these officials, however, this "slow-process" run on banks might subside long before that time, if the details of the tax levy program, which is expected to be submitted to the Supreme Allied Headquarters by the end of this year, are made public.

In this connection, they revealed that the Finance Ministry is working out detailed countermeasures to prevent possible evasions of new taxes. They are of the opinion, therefore, that publication by the Finance Ministry of details of the new tax program will have a far-reaching effect in the direction of improving the current banking unrest.

With reference to the second phase of the widespread withdrawals of bank deposits due to rapid price increases, these officials are hopeful that the situation will improve rapidly once the projected imports of foodstuffs from abroad under Allied permission materialize. In this connection, they pointed to reports of bumper crops in Southern Korea, Canada and the United States this year.

REPORT ON FOOD STOCKS

Cities of Over 100,000 Population Must Make Statement to SCAP

Stocks of staple foodstuffs in cities over 100,000 population in the Japanese mainland, namely, Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku and Hokkaido, must be reported to the Allied Supreme Headquarters when they fall below ten days' supply, according to a SCAP directive issued on December 11.

Accordingly, the Japanese Government was directed to inform GHQ the stocks of staple foods, including rice, wheat, millet, naked barley, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, soy beans, and other beans in any city of more than 100,000 persons at any time when the stocks on hand in any of these cities run short of the ten-day supply.

A daily report, it is directed, must be submitted to the Allied Supreme Headquarters regarding the following information:

1. Actual stocks of staple foodstuffs on hand in terms of days of supply and in terms of metric tons of rice equivalents.
2. Daily arrivals of rationed foodstuffs in terms of metric tons of rice equivalents.
3. Daily distribution in terms of metric tons of rice equivalents.

Obituary

Eizo Yoshida, noted puppeteer, passed away on December 9 at his relative's home in Katagiri-mura, Ikoma-gun, Nara Prefecture, at the age of 74. He started his career as a puppeteer with the Bunraku Puppet Troupe at the age of 12 and in 1937 became the head puppeteer. Since then he had played a prominent part side by side with Bungoro Yoshida, tutor of the deceased, and in 1941 was given the Asahi prize.

President Toshiya Suzuki of Hiroshima Literature and Science University died of uraemic poisoning on December 9 at his Hiroshima residence. He was 61 years of age. A native of Gifu Prefecture, he taught at the Hiroshima Higher Normal School for 31 successive years and when the school was elevated to the status of a university, became a professor. On December 5, he was appointed president.

Occupation Forces' Exchange Quotation Of ¥15 to $1 Backed by Nippon Experts

The current occupation forces exchange rate of ¥15 to $1 is being generally supported by Japanese economic exports as a fair and practical dollar-yen rate, aside from the point that the rate is the one actually adopted by the United States authorities in Japan in settling accounts with the Japanese side, a Jiji press survey of opinion in economic circles revealed on Friday.

Economic circles show keen interest in the question of where the foreign exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the Japanese yen will be finally fixed, though they are fully aware of the fact that there is no immediate need of fixing the official exchange rate in view of the remote possibility of resumption of Japanese foreign trade.

Among many economic exports canvassed by Jiji Press is Kamekichi Takahashi, director of the Takahashi Economic Research Institute, who, from his own economic point of view, expressed himself in support of the present occupation forces rate.

Takahashi took exception to some economic experts who hold that the present value of Yen is now one-tenth or below its prewar value in view of the fact that black-market quotations of various commodities are about ten times higher than the prewar commodity prices.

He pointed out that the black-market prices do not necessarily represent an accurate index of economic activities or of economic life of a nation. He added that official quotations and quantity of goods available under officially-fixed prices should be taken into consideration besides black-market quotations in order to present a sound economic picture of a nation.

The economic expert also pointed out that commodity prices in the United States had also registered more than 100 per cent increase during the war.

In his opinion, therefore, the U.S. dollar is estimated to have a purchasing power slightly more than 250 per cent higher than the Japanese yen, in other words, the ratio between the dollar and yen being somewhere around ¥15 to one U.S. dollar, as compared with the pre-par exchange rate.

Other economic experts canvassed were found practically to share the view expressed by Takahashi in making their own economic analyses and surveys. At the same time, all these experts are agreed that the fixation of an official exchange rate between the dollar and yen is not a matter of urgency, in view of the fact that Japan's foreign trade will still be out of the question for some time to come, except for a special trade account to be set up and barter between imported foreign goods and shipments for collaterals.

New Plan Disclosed Of Rebuilding Ginza

To Switch All Street Car Lines To Showa-dori and Widen Shopping District

With the aid of specialists in city planning, Tokyo Metropolis has drafted a plan for designing Ginza, the heart of the shopping district, into an attractive and well laid out tourist center.

In the new face-lifting process, present plans include switching of all street car lines to Showa-dori and widening the main street of Ginza. Buildings of ferro-concrete will be over four stories but will not exceed eight stories to have more uniformity and all eyesore telegraph poles will be buried underground.

A wide central boulevard of gingko trees will stretch from one end of Ginza to the other while eight hotels on the street nearer Showa-dori will be operated for foreign visitors. Shops will be more like hotel stores which, of course, will be built after the present temporary wooden structures have all been torn down.

To Extend Driveway

In the street widening plan, the driveway will be extended as far as the present sidewalks, and new pavements laid out on either side. The main floor of buildings standing at present such as Mitsukoshi, Hattori and Matsuya will all be opened as halls for pedestrian traffic. Only buses and passenger cars will be allowed on the road on either side of the central boulevard and all trucks, ox carts and others will be made to pass back streets. Also rotaries will be constructed at three main intersections.

The hotels being planned will be both Japanese and foreign in architecture. On the road from Ginza 4-chome to Kachidoki Bridge, theaters and movie halls with the Kabuki Theater as the focal point will be constructed.

Canals and rivers coursing along the neighborhood of Ginza will be changed into amusement centers where motorboats and rowboats may be hired. Walks along the canals will be made into tree-lined promenades with open-air coffee stalls and resting places at frequent intervals.

The plans include the building of Tokyo Kaikan (name provisional) near Kyobashi. A fire station, electric and gas companies, street cleaning department, and other public facilities will be housed on the ground floor while on the second floor the public may have access to a library on Ginza, consultation offices, police station, hall and others.

Retaining Night Stalls

Night stalls, as one of the distinguishing features of Ginza night life, will be retained and various facilities will be given to these. All floors above the fifth and sixth stories of stores are planned as apartment dwellings and considerations made to set aside these quarters as lodgings for store and office workers in view of their commuting problems with later business hours of the future.

In this ambitious re-planning of the Ginza, the idea of an international airport at Tsukishima has been forwarded. Tourists arriving from points west to Tokyo will get off at this airfield, to be whisked away to the above mentioned hotels in a matter of five or six minutes by automobile. After dinner and souvenir shopping in Ginza they may spend the remainder of the day at the nearby theater district to return tired but satisfied to their hotels. This is the object of the city planners.

However, these are plans of the future. What is the progress made in temporary reconstruction plans? Only 40 per cent of the structures of wood in tenement style which were to be put up by December 1 to cope with GI customers have been completed. This slackness in the building program is due to various factors such as high re-purchase price of land rights from owners of former store operators who moved out through compulsory evacuation or spacing of buildings, difficulty of negotiation becaues of landowners not in Tokyo through being burnt out or having evacuated and lack of food. This applies to workmen who would rather work for lunches rather than high wages.

The building contractors are confident that once work gets under full swing, everything can be completed in two months. The later the work is put off the higher the cost of building but with the present speed, it won't be till next May or June that Ginza can celebrate its recovery. Until then the sprawling open stalls that have sprouted up with mushroom rapidity continue to lord over Ginza.

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New Policy Outlined In Picking Educators

Special Body to Examine Their Qualifications for Teaching

A special committee to examine qualifications of educationists to determine whether or not they are fit to engage in educational activities in order to clear the Japanese post-war educational world of undemocratic elements will be established shortly, possibly by the end of this year.

The projected committee will be composed of Government officials, scholars and other private citizens interested in education.

The primary duty of this committee, it was learned, will be to subject to closest scrutiny by its members books, articles and theories made public by any citizens holding positions in educational institutions, thereby determining whether they are qualified to engage in educational activities along democratic lines.

Meanwhile, it was learned from well-informed sources that the Education Ministry will permit the Jingu Kogaku-kan, a college specializing in the study of Shintoism, and the Koku-gakuin College, which specializes in the spiritualist study of Japanese classics and Shintoism, to carry on after reorganization of their teaching staffs.

These two colleges have been criticized by some educationists because of their nationalistic lines of educational policy, which is considered not in keeping with the democratic trends of the times.

According to these sources, however, the Education Ministry authorities take the view that a purely academic study of Japanese classics and Shintoism should be recognized and that these two colleges in question should be allowed to carry on as educational institutions engaged in such academic pursuits.

They added, however, that their present faculties would have to be drastically reshuffled before they resume their academic activities.

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(Shows in CAPS produced in the Tokyo studios.)

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Press Club Reopens

American and Japanese newspapermen enjoyed a beer party held Saturday afternoon at the Togyo Kaikan Building at 1-chome, Yuraku-cho to mark the reopening of the International Press Club. The Club, organized in October by newspapermen of major Tokyo dailies at the Marunouchi Kaikan, was reopened Saturday at the former Ritz Restaurant on the basement floor of the Togyo Kaikan, located opposite the Dai-Ichi Building toward the Hibiya streetcar crossing. It will be open from 4 to 7 p.m. daily except Sundays and foreign newspapermen are invited to use the facilities of the Club as guest members.

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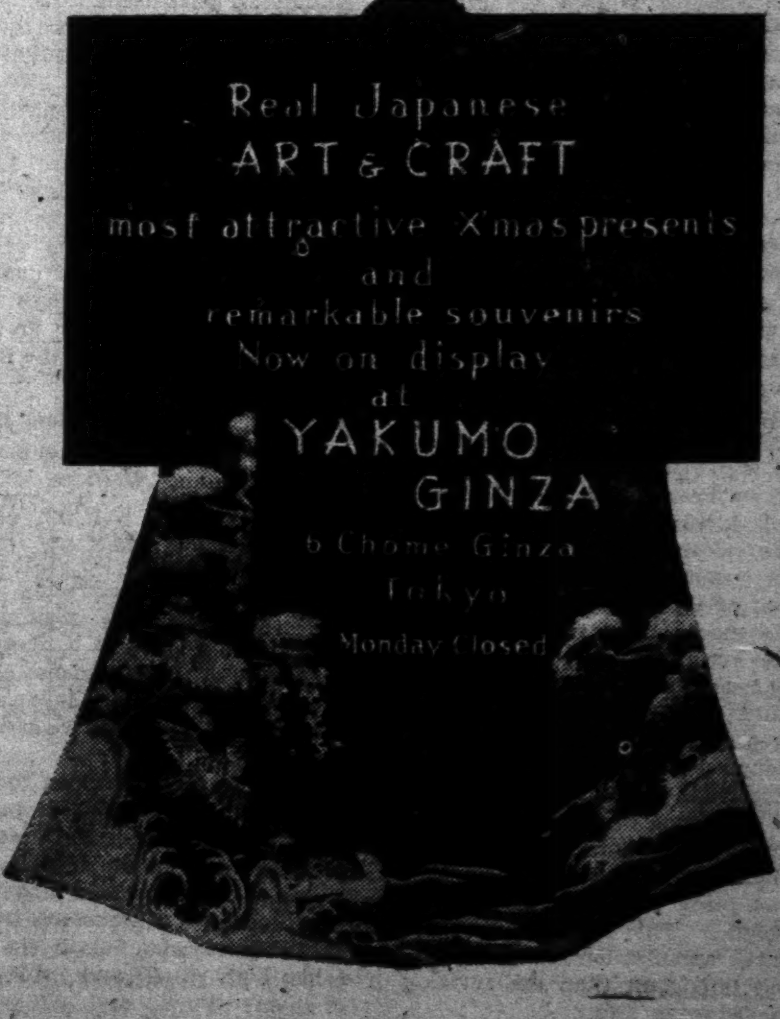

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Allied Military Personnel in Tokyo will have an opportunity to hear two special concerts in Tokyo, today.

From 2 p.m. at the Army Hall (Gunjin Kaikan), Kudan, the Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra will offer a special presentation of its 271st subscription program, under the baton of Joseph Rosenstock.

Professor Willy Frey will be the violin soloist. The following numbers will be played: First Symphony in f minor, Opus 10, by Schostakovitch; Violin Concerto in c minor, Opus 64, by Mendelssohn, and "From Bohemia's Woods and Plains", Symphonic Poem No. 4, from the Suite "My Fatherland", by Smetana.

The same program will be given for the general public, at the Hibiya Public Hall, from 5:30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, December 17 and 18.

Meanwhile, the American Red Cross will offer a special recital at the A.R.C. Club for Enlisted Men at the Banker's Building, Marunouchi, from 7 p.m. today.

Madam Tamaki Miura, Japan's most famous lyric soprano singer, will be presented with Professor Klaus Pringsheim at the piano. She will sing operatic selections from Thomas' "Mignon", Offenbach's "Staendchen", Grogi's "Le Lucciole"; and such American songs as Lieurance's "By the Waters of Minnetonka", Foster's "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Folks at Home".

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Help Wanted

WANTED good interpreter for Life Magazine. Apply Box 93, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

WANTED proof readers, Nippon Times. Any nationality. Apply in person to the editorial department, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

Wanted to Rent

FOREIGN or Japanese house, furnished or partly, by 3 American officers. Tokyo or Tachikawa preferred. Also 2 servants. Apply Box 95, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

For Sale

AMERICAN-MADE ladies' brown [illegible] with medium heel. Size 4½. Price [illegible]. Apply Box 96, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

COLLECTION of antique porcelain of China, Siam and Indo-China are displayed for sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Sunday during December at the residence of O. Saito, 24.1, Kugenuma, Fujisawa City.

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PROJECTOR (Films) 16/mm, Bell and Howel make, used but in perfect condition and portable screen. Apply Box 89, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

SILK raincoat (rubberized) brand new, color black, for immediate sale (Size: medium). Apply Box 53, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

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General

TOM Crichton wishes to contact Ken Ishibashi, V. Chocklingham, Carmelita Ueno. Call Tamotsu Murayama or George Togasaki, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

Nippon Times
Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.

TOKYO OFFICE:
1 Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku. Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 353.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 403, 5837, 5853, 5839, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyo-yubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICE:
OSAKA: Dojima Bldg. Tel. Kita 1770.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One month, ¥10.00; six months, ¥58.00; one year, ¥115.00. Postage ¥0.60 per month to all parts of the Japanese Empire. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

Publisher and Printer:
JINTARO WAKAMATSU

TOKYO, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1945

Strikes and Inflation

While workers in the American automobile industry are out on strike over a demand for a 30 per cent wage increase, employees of an interurban railway line in the Tokyo area are striking for a 300 per cent wage increase. It may not be strictly logical to conclude from this fact that the Japanese workers are ten times more democratic than the American workers or ten times more radical or ten times more vigorous, but at any rate the Japanese workers are no pikers.

One interesting feature of this local railway strike is the fact that the strikers have not quit working. Recognizing that railway service is a public utility which must not be disrupted, the strikers are maintaining full service. The strike simply takes the form of the employees permitting all passengers to ride free of charge. This is obviously a more effective technique than the orthodox method, for whereas in a regular strike the company experiences a cessation of costs as well as of income, in this form of strike the company's costs continue while the income ceases. Moreover, the strikers win the good will of the public, which is usually not the case in most transport strikes.

The most significant, and at the same time the most unfortunate, feature of this strike, however, is the fact that both the strikers and the company are in the right and both deserve to win, which is impossible. Under ordinary circumstances, any demand for a 300 per cent increase in wages would be outrageous. If such a demand should be made by the employees, it would be safe to conclude that they were being unreasonable. On the other hand, the powerful position of most employers and the relatively underprivileged position of most employees being what they are, it is generally safe to assume that in most strikes the strikers are deserving of sympathy. But in the case of the present strike, both the employers and the employees are being completely reasonable and both are fully deserving of sympathy and both deserve to win, which makes it awkward all around.

It goes without saying that to meet the demands of the employees would wreck the company, for the company has experienced no increase in income commensurate with the increase demanded in wages. But on the other hand, the demand of the workers is not unreasonable, for they need that much of an increase in order to live. The cost of living has gone up possibly 1,000 per cent or more since the time the present wage scale was set. The villain of the story, of course, is inflation.

The situation high-lighted by this strike is a universal situation confronting all employers and all workers in Japan at the present time. Prices have gone skyrocketing, but neither earnings nor wages have been able to keep up. Workers are finding it impossible to live on their wages, and many of them are quitting work to engage in fly-by-night business dealings because that is the only way in which they can earn enough to live. Companies are finding it impossible to find enough workers to keep up their operations, for they cannot possibly keep increasing wages fast enough to keep up with the increase in the cost of living.

The situation is particularly trying among public servants who have traditionally been underpaid and whose employment is maintained on a fixed budget. Moreover, such public servants are prohibited by custom and public interest to engage in strikes. School teachers, policemen, government clerks, and such types of workers often receive a monthly salary which is equivalent to no more than the price of a single meal in a moderately decent restaurant. Railway workers may strike, but policemen are forbidden even this channel if expressing their grievances.

But even if everyone could strike, that would not solve the problem. Both the employers and the employees are equally the victims of forces beyond their control, and no amount of striking or no amount of arbitration or no amount of compromise is going to remove the root of the trouble. Inflation is something which the grant of higher wages will not stop.

The growing tendency of strikes to develop in this country is a welcome phenomenon in so far as it reflects the growth of democratic self-assertiveness on the part of the hitherto oppressed classes and in so far as it results in a recognition of the right of all classes to a decent standard of living. But the growing tendency of strikes to develop is an alarming danger sign in so far as it reflects the increasing acuteness of a runaway inflation. Such strikes are not a matter of employer-worker relationships: they are a matter of a comprehensive national economic policy. The handling of this problem on a broad enough and thorough enough scale is urgently necessary.

PRESS COMMENTS

Saturday, December 15

THE DIET SESSION

TOKYO ASAHI—The present session of the Diet, which was to close on December 14, has been prolonged by four days, in order to enable the Diet to pass the Farm Land Reform Bill and the Labor Union Bill. In spite of this prolongation, it is regarded certain that the dissolution of the House of Representatives will take place by December 20. The general election under the revised Election Law will therefore be held within the month of January, though the enforcement of the new provisions of the Law will take a few weeks. As to the conduct of the present members of the Diet, it is enough to recall the circumstances, under which the general election was carried out in 1942. It was a general election unprecedented in the scale of governmental interference, so it is not too much to say that the majority of the present House of Representatives are government-made members. It is, therefore, useless to ask whether the present members of that House are qualified to represent a democratic Japan.

What has been their attitude since the acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration? They dissolved the Dai Nippon Seiji-Kai and formed new parties and groups, butting new labels on their organizations without reference to the people. The major parties thus formed style themselves the Progressive and Liberal Parties, but it is entirely a matter of conjecture how the people will support these parties. The position of the Social Democrat Party is more or less different from those of the other parties, but still it cannot be said that the political consciousness of the farmers and workers is fully awakened.

What has been the conduct of the new parties in the present session of the Diet? On the question of war guilt, they made the issue purposely obscure, in disregard of the importance of the matter from the viewpoint of national regeneration. In the deliberations on the Bill for the Revision of the Election Law, they considered the question solely from the standpoint of party advantage, introducing amendments into the Bill for that purpose. They had intended to shelve the Farm Land Reform Bill, but on the intervention of the Allied Headquarters, they decided to pass the Bill, with amendments in favor of the land owners. In regard to the Labor Union Bill, they also intended to introduce amendments from a reactionary standpoint, but they are now likely to pass the Bill, owing to the pressure of circumstances. It is up to the people to decide whether the present members of the House of Representatives are at all fit to represent them.

The people must watch how the House of Peers will treat such democratic measures as the Farm Land Reform Bill and the Labor Union Bill, sent up from the House of Representatives, for the attitude of the Peers in regard to these bills will furnish important material for the reform of the House of Peers. As a guarantee against the repetition of the recent disaster, the people should never repeat themselves the errors in the choice of their representatives. They must carefully observe the conduct of the present members of the House of Representatives, which will soon be dissolved. They must be careful not to elect such candidates as will come under the domination of party oligarchs in spite of their slogans and pledges in their electoral campaign. The democratization of party organization is a question not less important than the revision of the Election Law.

U.S. OFFICERS AND MEN LAUDED FOR BETTER CONDITIONS HERE

People Should Pause And Ponder How And Why Japan Plunged Into Insane War

By HIROO MUKAI

The present state in Japan is one of absolute concord with the Americans. It seems as if the Japanese tingle with pleasure on being spoken to by an American soldier. What a great difference to the conditions four years ago. Praise for bringing this atmosphere of benevolence into being, should go entirely to the American soldiers. As General MacArthur has remarked, they have shown modesty and discipline fit to be held up as examples in days to come.

Why is this attitude possible? I believe that though it may sound rather hackneyed, this should be attributed to their democratic upbringing. A friend said to me, only the other day, "maybe, the Americans don't know how to be haughty. They don't seem to have any experience of being pompous."

An instance of the American way is the troops' attitude when getting on and off the trams and buses. They do not hustle and jostle, and in nearly all cases, you see American soldiers waiting till the last Japanese is on. It is only when there is quite an amount of sitting space left on a vehicle, that an American soldier will seat himself. It is through their actions, that the Japanese are drawn to them. They now know that the American soldier stands for kindness and humanity, and they have learned to trust him; and this, less than four months after their surrender, and in face of the extreme atrocity-propaganda which had been distributed by the militarists. While the acts of the Americans may be only small and insignificant from their own point of view, they are of importance in Japan.

Conduct Is Spontaneous

Of course, the American soldier's conduct is spontaneous, and he is unaware of the actual admiration his actions awakens in the hearts of his Japanese audience. He must know that good conduct is essential in fostering the respect of the Japanese; but I believe he would be quite astounded, if he were told his actions and movements which are quite natural to him, are in effect, good conduct. However, it is these seemingly insignificant actions which are extremely valuable in the construction of a democratic Japan, and bringing about the reeducation of the nation. A friend of mine who became thoroughly militaristic on conscription, said to me, a week after demobilization, "the American doesn't act like a victor. I admire him for his. They're fine, after all." This is but an instance.

Four years have passed, four years of strife and turmoil. But now the world is once again at peace. Japan, in spite of her destruction and demolition, is once again a peaceful country; in a way, she may be far more peaceful than ever before. It is true that we are suffering. But still, I believe we are on the threshold of a happiness far greater than was ever attained. They who look for it, should find great hopes in the future. The Japanese as a nation have, as yet, only begun to taste the richness of freedom. Indeed, on looking at things as they are, I have begun to wonder if even this complete defeat, may not be better than a victory bringing the despotism of the militarists. The best would have been, not to have started such a war at all; the next, an ending without victor nor vanquished; the third, the present state; and the last and worst, victory for Japan, and hence the Japanese militarists.

Just four years ago, Japan was a country where sabres rattled and munition plants roared. All freedom of speech and thought was thoroughly obstructed. To take up one's pen and put one's ideas in black and white, was to expose oneself to extreme danger. To make public any opinions contradictory to the Government's policies, was to brand oneself a traitor. Liberalism was a principle, pagan to the national spirit; so said the authorities. To have any ideas of one's own was in itself, dangerous thought. The country was in the midst of the black ages, an era of terrorism, comparable to the Spanish inquisition.

Democracy and Freedom Here

But today, we are in a period of democracy and freedom; of peace and equality. It is wonderful and, in a way, unbelievable. If the ruins and debris before me did not remind one of the suffering experienced to make this possible, one might think the past a dream. It is because of these immense changes, that notwithstanding Japan's present disaster, I believe we have been fortunate.

But there are questions to be answered and resolutions to be made. Was the era of ruin and destruction between these four years necessary? What of the sacrifices made in the attainment of the present tranquility? Those who fell in the battlefields, both Allies' and Axis'. What of them? Young and old, men and women died because of a mistaken ideology, and the headstrongness of but a few leaders. Although we are able to bathe in the brightness of peace and humanity, and hold hopes of happier days to come, what of the "Special Attack Forces," who went never to return?

Four years ago, there were many who are now no more; many who fell in battles, on land, on sea, and in the sky. Such sacrifices were caused by that epidemic which took grip of the world—totalitarianism. To pause for an instant, and consider the reasons which allowed such a misfortune to occur, is an important duty. I sincerely hope that the world never again will be the stage for such a tragedy. By this security alone, those valuable sacrifices shall not have been made in vain. Democracy and Peace, the two great principles advocated by the Allies, must live, live forever. All humanity must strive toward its maintenance. Just four years ago there were many who did not know this truth.

The Indonesian Issue

An editorial in the St. Louis Post Dispatch declared that former Governor Stassen of Minnesota calls upon statesmanship and suggests that America should ask for a United Nations inquiry into the causes of the trouble in Indonesia. He goes on to say "Almost as much had been called for from the British Labor Government itself which was urged to consult Britain's major allies concerning the Indonesian question.

"Indonesian nationalists have asked President Truman to intervene, but it seems we are looking the other way while our internationalism takes a beating in the East Indies. We said at San Francisco that we believe all nations can act together to fight injustice, but by our passive acceptance of the wrongs being committed in Java, we are repudiating our San Francisco pledges."

The voice of Harold Stassen, says the St. Louis Post Dispatch, "is that of the American conscience calling us to our post of duty in a single world."

The Moscow Conference

The St. Paul Pioneer press says editorially that the Moscow conference of Foreign Ministers presents those statesmen a chance to redeem the failures of the London conference.

The editorial continues in part: "The hopes of the world will turn to this gathering which begins next Saturday, as they turned to the London meeting last fall, and it is our hope that they will not be so cruelly disappointed this time. Another such failure would be tragic.

The breakdown of the London conference without a single tangible result in terms of peace threw the world off its course, and interrupted a long succession of developments, which had moved international society further along the road to collaboration. The failure at London changed the direction of events. Weeks elapsed since that conference and there were very few things to counter the impression that backward steps had been taken.

"But now," concludes the editorial, "Moscow must be the starting point for another march forward."

'Pride of Service'

Detroit Free Press

Secretary Forrestal was moved to comment somewhat brusequely on Lieut. Gen. Doolittle's testimony to the Senate Military Affairs Committee. General Doolittle had commented somewhat brusquely on earlier remarks of Admirals Nimitz and Mitscher. The two admirals had seemed to claim more victory credit for the Navy than an Army general thought compatible with the record.

Where did this stiffly police Army-Navy exchange really begin? Not with the principals of this incident certainly. It goes back to long-established period-of-service, an excellent quality as it is a morale-builder, a deplorable one wherever it leads to rancor between the two branches. Thus, when pride-of-service degenerates into bickering it is past time to call a halt.

Bank Note Issue Mounts

With the year-end settlement term near at hand, the Bank of Japan note issue has been rapidly increasing since the beginning of this month, and as of December 10, the total amount of Bank of Japan notes issued reached the enormous sum of ¥49,168,000 officials of the bank revealed on Friday. According to present indications in the money market and business world, they predicated the total amount of Bank of Japan note issue will pass the ¥50,000,000 mark in the middle part of December and will probably reach the neighborhood of ¥56,000,000 by the end of this month.

GI IN TOKYO

By T4/Chuck Shackford

After waking at the usual hour of six thirty, a dash is made to the mess hall for breakfast. Back then to the barracks for a morning lavatory and out on pass, for today is pass day. Downtown Tokyo for a few hours, during which time a visit to the PX (GI store) is a must. Browsing through souvenir shops and department stores in search of an appropriate present for every member of the family back home is the most time-consuming element in a GI's free time. The prices on these souvenirs are very high for the GI because he gets his pay on the Army rate of exchange. One soldier was disgusted to find the price of a hammer that would cost the equivalent of a yen and a half back home, was sixteen yen from the street vendor in down-town Tokyo.

After money, time or both have been exhausted, a trek is made to the rapid transit station for a homeward ride. Here is the source of a GI's great complaint.

The subways of New York are crowded, but compared to Tokyo's rapid transit system New York's transportation system is as congested as a cathedral with a collar button on its floor. To add to the discomfort of the ride a novice driver is frequently piloting the metal dragon.

A True Genius

There is one fellow, in particular, who is strictly bottom draw stuff when it comes to piloting an electric train. This chap has an absolute genius for knocking the occupants of the train on the floor. He is probably very clever when you consider it, though. He is the only man who can knock an old lady down on the floor and get away with it. Although he strives to be correct in his driving operations, there are too frequent times that he engages the car only to stop it suddenly and send the passengers barreling within the vehicle.

This done, he flickers the lights to inform the people that are now on the floor that the train will start . . . this time legitimately. After waiting till the train has progressed in speed and a reasonable degree of safety has been assumed by the passengers, this same driver is hit by the realization that he or someone of his cohorts have left the doors open. Bang! On go the brakes. Thud! Down go the passengers. Again the people are taken off guard; again the GI and the civilians recover.

Bruises are rife, but the GI appears to be the only one with any visible complaint registered on his face. The civilians seem to be used to such a transit system. At this time our hero, the driver, is approaching a station. Because, for some reason, he did not see the station until we were too close, the necessity of a quick brake application arrives once more on the GI's trip. Once again everybody falls to the floor and the GI's last words are, "Lemme out!".

France and Britain

By DON PRYOR

You get the impression here in Paris that France is marking time until a new constitution is completed and a more stable situation is evolved. Whether it will be more to the left towards Communist is a question.

In London the situation is not much better if not worse. The ravages of war can be seen vividly in the streets of this city. In the thick fog that covers London there is a feeling of intense weariness among the people. Desolation is written everywhere on the face of the metropolis. It will take a long time for Londoners to come back to normal life.

As to British politics, I have not been here long enough to give anything in detail, but you get the impression that Britain has not yet definitely gone radical. She still has both feet on the ground. But there is that same feeling of weariness in political life, too, namely, everyone here seems to want somebody to do something to recognize and to meet the necessities of the new world. What they want is this to be done without any loss of freedom to their lives.

Agrarian Reform

Commenting on General MacArthur's agrarian reform order, the Louisville Courier Journal says at the base of all democratic movements and political and intellectual emancipation of people from a system of oppression lies the idea of independence on the land. It continues:

Agrarian reforms go hand in hand with the first steps of a people gaining freedom. Thus at the start of the French Republic in 1789, peasant proprietorship became the order of the day. And so firm was this foundation, that France endured as a citadel of democratic institution.

No less robust and sturdy has Denmark been where extensive land reforms have been carried out. The point we are trying to make is that no other technique yet applied by Gen. MacArthur to the democratization of Japan is likely to be so effective as his order putting an end to absentee ownership, and providing credit for the purchase of land by peasants.

THIS THING CALLED DEMOCRACY

Rapidity of Democratization of This Country Reminds One of Speeded Up Motion Picture

By R. V. WALDREP, JR.

It is hard to believe that there are people who don't know what democracy is. If you are an American it is hard to understand. So when I read and hear that people in Japan don't know what is is, I pinch myself to see if I am awake. One fellow—a Japanese-wrote me that the Japanese didn't understand democracy and that it couldn't be translated to them. He was writing in response to my article in the TIMES entitled American Thoughts on Japan.

There must be a lot of truth in this idea that the Japanese cannot understand and feel that democracy is. As my correspondent said—in a very lengthy and thoughtful letter—there is 2600 years of history behind the Japanese people; customs and thoughts can become quite entrenched in all those years.

It is sudden, startlingly, shockingly sudden no doubt, to have things switched overnight; to have a way of life cut from the fabric of living in fast, whacking slices. And I suppose the man in the street is in a daze. Everybody is talking about this thing that has come to them—but strangely enough learned people say the masses have no understanding of this new thing in their midst.

But they will accept their fate. My correspondent says they will; he even gives me a proverb to show that they are resigned to their fate. He says a carp on the table is ready for the knife and he won't even flinch his fins.

That is a rather hard way to look at democracy, but after all they don't understand the fate that awaits them—the Japanese don't. They can't even be told what the fate is. They can't even picture it—for their eyes through centuries have been trained to not see democracy. So they wait like a man on the brink of death who has been told that a good life waits beyond—but he knows not what it is and nobody is able to tell him because he is deaf, dumb, and blind to its meaning or descriptoin.

Difficult to Understand

As I said in the beginning, one of these khaki clad boys who walks your srteets cheerfully and happily cannot understand the Japanese inability to understand democracy. All his life he has understood. In school he heard about it; he learned stories about men who died for it. He heard, for an example, about a man who shouted in a king's face: "GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH." And the boy who heard that understood. Because, you see, the boys in the schoolrooms of America have democracy in the classroom; they have it on the playground; they have it at home; they have it on the streets. And if the Japanese will look closely they won't have to worry about translations or word of mouth talk of democracy; they have it personified on the streets of Tokyo. These boys—including myself—live and breathe democracy. We aren't afraid of any isms—communism, fascism, or anything; we know that as people democracy is part of us. We actually believe that it is part of all people. In fact we believe that if people have a chance that democracy will just naturally grow out of people; it doesn't have to be planted—just sprouts up.

Now, if I talked like this at home people would think that it was funny, for democracy is accepted and people no longer write and talk about it—except the children in grade school who have assignments to bring in. If you talk too much about democracy, freedom, liberty—well, you are liable to be accused of flag-waving; for these things are considered part and parcel of America.

So you can see why as an American we have just as hard a time understanding why Japanese people can't understand democracy as the Japanese have in understanding what democracy is.

If I am not mistaken, Japanese people may think that democracy is selfish, everyman for himself, dog-eat-dog. That is the impression my correspondent gave me in his letter. He said the Japanese might be translating it into something egoistical. He said that they must learn to see that by helping others you help yourself in the long run. All he says is true; no doubt, however, some Japanese know what democracy is. This correspondent says he was in America until 13, and implied he learned what democracy was there. It seems that you have to experience democracy to know what it means, have to see it—well, that is being taken care of.

But the Japanese are really lucky; they may think they are getting something the hard way, the ignominous way; they may feel like the carp on the table ready for the knife. But it really isn't so bad. Americans, English, and French—and many other countries—had to go through war; had to cut the heads of kings off; had to suffer dictatorships, had to leave for new countries—all to get the right to do the way they wanted to. It has been tought for the people to get their rights; it has taken centuries. But in Japan it is going to happen in a hurry.

For example; in America women fought for years and years for the right to vote; it was a gradual education of the people to that end. A directive does it here. It is not a harsh thing. Japanese thinkers and scientists know women are as good as men; they have studied the human body and the human mind.

The democratization of Japan reminds one of a speeded up motion picture. Pictures have been made of a growing flower, a blooming flower; on the screen it looks as the whole process took place in a moment, but you know it took a long time. Democracy in its natural state grew slowly, with much blood shed—in Japan it is being popped into bloom in a brief time. One generation is going to have the profound and moving feeling and understanding of epochs going through their minds and hearts.

Democracy Is Good

Now the Japanese hold their hands to their eyes and say I cannot see, my people cannot see—what is that? Let me tell you that it is not a bad feeling; it is something I like personally; it is pretty good. Let me tell you as a man, as a member of the human family, not as an American, it is good—this democracy. You can't kill and steal and lie and mistreat—but you can feel free. Free is a big word.

I don't think you need to be a carp on the table. Why not put back the shoulders and walk in and be a guest in a house where you can't get a license to be nuisance, but where you can laugh and talk and give opinions and write and disagree and improve yourself and compete and produce and hope.

There is only one thing Americans can't understand and that is somebody who wants to be on the knees and who can't understand the rights and obligations of a free man. We understand other things and peoples very well, for we have races from all parts of the world. They are from all continents, and they live and vote side by side. We understand all races, because we have all races and are all races.

But this is fancy talk, laughable talk, and I must say no more; we take things like this for granted. At home we just live our lives and try to have as much fun as possible in living, having children, learning things, and manking the best of our lives.

Frankly, one of these days the Japanese are going to be democrats; they may not know when it happens. Men and women and children will be very important people then.

UNRRA's Work

We were reminded of the state of the rest of the world when Congress passed the appropriation for $550,000,000 for UNRRA without any strings attached to it. UNRRA recommended that those nations which had not been invaded should contribue one per cent of their national income on the 1943 basis for the relief and rehabilitation of those ravaged by war. We have now put up, the United States all together, 1,350,000,000. Other nations, including England put up 533,000,000 altogether, another big margin.

You've all heard of the pipe line service of supplies for the armed services. UNRRA needs a pipeline too. It takes an average of seven weeks' time from the time they start preparing before they can load the goods on shipboard. If the pipeline begins to run dry even temporarily in the midst of winter the effect would be disastrous on the health, the state of mind, and the social condition throughout eastern and southeastern Europe.

UNRRA has been sharply criticized in the past for inefficient administration. Its heads admit that they had some incapable men. But they say that they have vigorously weeded out their employees and that they have lately been able to employ some top administrators. Notable are British and Canadian officers who took part in the planning of General Eisenhower's campaign. They also got men of that quality from America too.

There have also been stories that in some European countries there have been political interference with the distribution of relief. In some few cases, say UNRRA officials, there have been some interferences. But when they complained at the governments of the countries where it happened they always got it straightened out and they insist that those instances were far fewer than reported.

Right now UNRRA is feeding 100,000,000 people in Europe, but food is only a part of its work. It provides agricultural implements so that the devastated countries would be able to get a big enough crop next year to feed themselves thereafter. It supplies coal. It rebuilds transportation, so that the district which is starving can get the food that is ten times as plentiful in another district 404 miles away.

By the end of next year UNRRA hopes Europe will be back on its feet and able to keep itself going.